Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 073268

EXDIS - FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN

FOLLOWING REPEAT ANKARA 2446 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO ATHENS NICOSIA VIENNA USUN NEW YORK 02 APR 77

QUOTE CONFIDENTIAL ANKARA 2446

EXDIS

DEPT PLEASE PASS SECRETARY PARTY IMMEDIATE

SECRETARY'S PARTY FOR HARTMAN

VIENNA FOR LEDSKY

DEPT FOR NIMETZ

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY TU GR

SUBJ: CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS IN VIENNA

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REF: STATE 071751 TOSEC 030204, AND PREVIOUS

1. UPON RECEIPT REFTEL (MORNING, APRIL 2) I TELEPHONED MFA SECRETARY GENERAL ELEKDAG TO REAFFIRM CONCERNS PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED BY MATT NIMETZ TO ESENBEL. ELEKDAG CONFIRMED THAT ESENBEL HAD TELEPHONED ANKARA AND THE NEXT PORTION OF OUR CONVERSATION WAS TAKEN UP WITH ELEKDAG'S REPEATING TO ME ALL THE POINTS

THAT ESENBEL HAD PASSED BACK TO NIMETZ (STATE 72196).
ELEKDAG'S PARTICULAR EMPHASIS WAS ON ARGUMENT THAT
THE GREEK TERRITORIAL PROPOSAL WITH ITS CONTONAL
ARRANGEMENTS VIOLATED UNDERSTANDINGS REACHED EARLIER
AND THAT THIS, PLUS THE GREEKS' HAVING PUBLICIZED
THE MAP AHEAD OF TIME, HAD CONVINCED THE TURK/CYPRIOT SIDE
THAT THE GREEKS HAD NOT COME TO VIENNA FOR SERIOUS
NEGOTIATIONS. AS A RESULT, SAID ELEKDAG, ANKARA IS
HAVING A VERY HARD TIME WITH DENKTASH AND HIS TURKISH
CYPRIOT ADVISERS. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT HE AND
CAGLAYANGIL ARE "TRYING TO BE HELPFUL."

2. I RECALLED THE GOT COMMITMENT TO SECRETARY CLIFFORD WAS FOR TURKISH SIDE TO ENGAGE IN MEANINGFUL AND SUSTAINED NEGOTIATIONS BASED ON CONCRETE PROPOSALS. I SAID I DID NOT THINK THAT COMMITMENT WOULD BE HONORED IF ALL TURKISH SIDE DID WAS TO SAY THAT THE GREEK TERRITORIAL PROPOSAL WAS UNACCEPTABLE, AND WHY. I RECALLED THAT HE HIMSELF HAD SPOKEN TO ME IN OUR LAST MEETING OF HOW UNFORTUNATE IT WOULD BE IF THE TURKS WERE NOT PRPARED TO COME BACK WITH A CREDIBLE COUNTER-PROPOSAL ON TERRITORY. ELEKDAG'S RESPONSE WAS THAT HE WAS SPEAKING ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE GREEK PROPOSAL WOULD NOT BE AS BAD AS THE ONE THEY HAD TABLED. ("IMAGINE WAITING TWO YEARS FOR THIS", HE SAID.) I THEN EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE SURPRISE THAT THE TURKS WERE SURPRISED THAT THE FIRST GREEK TERRITORIAL OFFER WAS AN UNACCEPTABLE ONE. I DOUBTED THAT THE INITIAL TURKISH COUNTER-PROPOSAL WOULD BE VERY ACCEPTABLE EITHER. CONFIDENTIAL

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BUT IF THE TURKS MEANT TO HONOR THEIR COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINED NEGOTIATIONS, THEY SURELY SHOULD MAKE COUNTER-PROPOSALS NOW.

3. ELEKDAG SAID THAT HE AGREED. ANKARA, HE REPEATED, WAS HAVING A VERY DIFFICULT TIME WITH DENKTASH. AND, HE ADDED, EVEN HE, ELEKDAG, THOUGHT THE GREEK PROPOSAL WAS SO BAD THAT THE EQUIVALENT TURKISH RESPONSE SHOULD BE AN OFFER TO SETTLE FOR THE BOUNDARIES AS THEY NOW ARE. THE GREEKS HAVE GONE TO THEIR EXTREME OF 20 PERCENT SO YOU CAN ARGUE, HE SAID, THAT THE TURKS CAN GO TO THEIR EXTREME AS WELL BY OFFERING THE PRESENT BOUNDARIES. I COUNTERED BY SAYING THAT SUCH AS RESPONSE WOULD BE A DISSERVICE TO THE TURKISH POSITION AND WORLD PUBLIC OPINION, AND I HOPED HE COULD AVOID IT.

4. ELEKDAG AT THIS POINT WARMED UP CONSIDERABLY. HE SAID ANKARA WAS TRYING VERY HAD NOT REPAT NOT TO HAVE THE TALKS BREAK DOWN AND HE FULLY UNDERSTOOD THAT

WALDHEIM WANTS A CONCRETE COUNTER-PROPOSAL.
HOEVER, IT WAS UNREASONABLE FOR ANYONE TO EXPECT
A COUNTER-OFFER "IN TWO AND ONE-HALF HOURS OR A DAY."
I SAID I AGREED ABOUT THE TWO AND ONE-HALF HOURS BUT
THAT I STRONGLY COUNSELED THAT THE COUNTER-PROPOSAL
SHOULD BE READY BY MONDAY. ELEKDAG SAID AGAIN THAT
ANKARA IS TRYING. MACOMBER

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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